



C M Childs

## C M CHILDS MD, FRCS, MFOM

Dr C M Childs, consultant in diving and hyperbaric medicine in Aberdeen, died on 27 December aged 43.

Christopher Michael Childs was born in October 1945; his father was a surgeon in Plymouth. He went to Aberdeen University initially intent on reading zoology; but he soon transferred to the medical school, from which he graduated MB, ChB in 1971. He continued, however, to take an interest in the wider aspects of biology and was particularly knowledgeable in ornithology. After doing research in Uppsala, Sweden, into the microcirculation he was appointed to a junior position on the staff of the academic surgical unit in Aberdeen. Shortly after this, however, the offshore oil and gas industry became established in the northern North Sea and produced unusual problems for the medical profession in Aberdeen. Mike's vigour and curiosity led him to try to solve many of these problems, while his capacity for sustained hard work and his logical mind ensured his acceptance into this subject from a very junior position, and he became lecturer and then senior lecturer in the Institute of Environmental and Offshore Medicine at Aberdeen.

Mike helped to establish many of the basic tenets of offshore medicine and to elaborate many of the training courses and research programmes, but his real interest from the start was in diving medicine. The initial survey that he carried out on episodes of unconsciousness in divers is still widely quoted. He became a member of the Diving Medical Advisory Committee of Great Britain, and it is probably for this work that he became best known. Perhaps his most exotic task was to provide medical cover during the recovery of the gold from HMS *Edinburgh* in the Arctic Ocean.

Mike was a private person who sought high professional standards and defended his viewpoint with extreme vigour. He found it difficult to compromise, and this caused inevitable conflict—even at times with his close colleagues. He was particularly intolerant of interference in professional matters by people outside the profession. His final year or so was clouded by illness. Characteristically, he did not stop working and fighting until the last few days of his life. He is survived by his father and by his brother and sister.—JNN.

## H A LEGGETT MD, FRCP, DPH, DCH

Dr H A Leggett, formerly consultant emeritus in general medicine to the Redhill group of hospitals, died on 3 November aged 78.

Humphrey Abraham Leggett was born on 16 May 1910 in Greenwich and educated at Perse School, Cambridge. He graduated MB, BS from Guy's Hospital, London, in 1937. After appointments in Southampton and Leicester he studied at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and in 1940 was appointed deputy medical superintendent to Redhill County Hospital. In 1942 he joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve and saw service in India, Ceylon, and Singapore as a medical specialist.

On demobilisation in 1946 Dr Leggett rejoined Redhill County Hospital and with the inception of the NHS became a consultant physician and eventually medical superintendent. For many years he carried a heavy clinical burden, caring not only for adult

patients but also for children and for patients with infectious fevers and mental disorders. He was a caring and kind doctor.

While at school he had been captain of boxing—somewhat surprisingly in view of his gentle and modest manner as a physician. As a young man he had played rugby, and in later years he enjoyed hill walking and watching cricket. Sadly, he was disabled by a severe stroke in his retirement, but he bore his disability with great courage, supported to the end by his wife and family.—JPHD.

## A Y P COCHRANE MB, CHB

Dr A Y P Cochrane, who was a general practitioner in Edinburgh from 1925 to 1972, died on 23 October aged 95.

Alexander (Alex) Younger Peattie Cochrane was born in Bo'ness, West Lothian, in 1892, the sixth of nine brothers. He gained an MA at Edinburgh University in 1913 and then went on to the medical school. A naval reservist, during the first world war he was commissioned in France in the Hood battalion of the Royal Naval 63rd Division and as a sailor wore khaki at the battle of the Somme, later being gassed; this was because the navy had more men than there were ships for them. After the war he graduated in medicine in 1919 and held appointments in hospitals in Edinburgh and London before entering practice in Edinburgh, where he was mainly in private practice. A charming and popular colleague, he was courteous, tactful, painstaking, and absolutely reliable.

Alex was interested in all sport generally and in golf in particular: even up to the age of 90 he regularly played a few holes. Well preserved and always impeccably dressed, he enjoyed remarkable health. He is survived by his wife, Jenny; his son, Cameron; and his daughter, Jennifer.—CCL.

## E M STIRK MB, CHB, FRCPATH, DPATH

Dr E M Stirk, formerly consultant microbiologist to the Leicester hospitals, died on 9 November aged 73.

Eric Mervyn Stirk was a native of Albrighton, Shropshire. Educated at Bromsgrove School, he graduated in medicine at Birmingham University in 1939. After house appointments in Birmingham he served in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve from 1941 to 1945 in the Persian Gulf in destroyers and at the diving school at Gosport. After a year with the regional blood transfusion service in Birmingham and two years as a registrar in pathology at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, he was appointed senior registrar in pathology to the Stoke on Trent group of hospitals. In 1953 he was appointed consultant pathologist to Leicester General Hospital and Leicester Royal Infirmary and consultant bacteriologist to the Leicester group of hospitals; he retired in 1977.

Mervyn had responsibility for diagnostic bacteriology and consequent therapeutic advice and for the sterilisation of equipment within Leicestershire. After retiring he continued as assistant medical adviser to Leicester County Council in the community health service.

Mervyn, a bachelor, devoted himself to Leicester's

*Obituaries of any doctors will be considered for publication provided that the doctors have worked in the United Kingdom for a large part of their career. Obituaries must be submitted exclusively to the BMJ and should be up to about 400 words long; they should be sent within six months, and preferably within three months, of death. "Self written" obituaries are welcome.*



I Warren

pathology services and was a most loyal colleague both to his fellow consultants and, particularly, to the general laboratory staff. He was a keen fly fisherman and shot, shooting in the east midlands attended by his beloved springer spaniels. He was an active freemason and served the church in Houghton on the Hill, where he lived. —AGA.

## I WARREN MD

Dr I Warren, a general practitioner in Edmonton, north London, died suddenly while on holiday on 5 December. He was 77.

Isidore Warren was born in Lwow, Poland, and studied at the medical faculty of Bologna University, where he obtained his MD in 1937. Thereafter he worked in hospitals in Vienna, and at the outbreak of the second world war, to escape Nazi persecution, he went to Paris and worked in the Hôpital Broca. Immediately after the Polish Brigade was formed in France he enlisted, and he was evacuated to Scotland when France fell in 1940. He transferred to the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1942 and saw active service in west Africa, India, and Burma until hostilities ended in 1945. He returned to England and remained in the RAMC until 1947.

After the war Dr Warren's work was exclusively in general practice. He started his own practice in 1951 in Edmonton, where he built up a large family practice and remained until his death. During his last 11 years in practice he was joined by his elder son. He is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter, and three grandchildren. —MW.

## K H GILLISON MB, CHB, FRCS(ED)

Mr K H Gillison, who had had a full life as a surgeon in China, a student medical officer in Nigeria, and a general practitioner in Hertfordshire, died on 27 December aged 88.

Keith Harris Gillison's father founded a mission hospital in central China, and his eventful life started at the age of 1 when he and his family had to escape to Japan for a few months during the Boxer rebellion. He left China at the age of 10 to continue his education at Eltham College, London, and subsequently studied medicine in Edinburgh, graduating in 1924. He returned to China and in building up the Union Hospital in Hankow had to work hard in administration as well as in the operating theatre. During his tenure the hospital expanded from 24 to 240 beds. He instigated an artificial limb fitting centre using local materials, and by 1940 the hospital had undergraduate as well as postgraduate students.

When war was declared between Britain and Japan Keith Gillison was interned with his wife and son in a prisoner of war camp for two and a half years. His highest accolade there was when a Japanese guard with acute appendicitis chose him to remove the appendix rather than the nearest military surgeon. After a brief furlough in England he went back to China in 1947 but carried on only until 1950 because life had become dangerous for his Chinese colleagues and friends and was difficult for all foreigners. He returned to England and changed to general practice in Bermondsey for five years before going to University College, Ibadan, for six years. He finally settled down as a general practitioner in Letchworth for the last 19 years of his working life.

He enjoyed general practice every bit as much as surgery and retired reluctantly at 79 to write a book

about his full life, *The Cross and the Dragon*. He believed in "betting one's life there is a personal God" and practised what he preached. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; two daughters and a son; and six grandchildren. —WG.

## MARY M M EVANS MRCS, LRCP, DPH

Dr Mary M M Evans, who had been in general practice in Cardiff for many years, died on 21 November aged 76.

Mary Margaret McKenzie Llewellyn—Mac, as she was universally known—was born in Edinburgh on 9 July 1912, the daughter of a general practitioner who subsequently practised in Cardiff. She was educated at the Abbey School, Malvern, and qualified in medicine from University College Cardiff and the Welsh National School of Medicine in 1936. She held several appointments in Llandough Hospital and in 1939 married Dr Ernest Evans, who had taken up a post as consultant physician in Hastings. When he was posted to Malta during the second world war Mac returned to Cardiff to take over her father's practice as he had also volunteered for service. The practice was a large one in a predominantly working class area, and in addition Mac was medical officer of a large steel works nearby.

Mac remained in practice until 1972, when she became the first woman to be a part time medical referee in the regional medical service in the Welsh Office. She retired in 1984. She had been district surgeon in the Cardiff division of the St John Ambulance for many years.

Mac had a kindly, sympathetic, yet authoritative manner that endeared her to her patients and colleagues. She had a tremendous zest for living and entertained on a grand scale, being an expert cook. Music was also a great love. She had tremendous style, and it was a great joy for her after her retirement finally to indulge to the full her love of travel. She bore her final illness with great fortitude and cheerfulness. She is survived by her son, David; her daughter, Sarah, who is in general practice; and five grandchildren. —JNMP.

## R A S KEIGHLEY TD, MB, CHB, DIH, DOBSTRCOG

Dr R A S Keighley, who had been a general practitioner in Leeds and then worked in occupational health, died on 1 January. He was 75.

Robert Arthur Spink Keighley was born in Darlington and attended Scorton Grammar School and Leeds Medical School. As a student he rowed for the university, was a keen member of the officers' training corps, and was president of the union. He graduated in 1938 and in 1939 married Jacqueline, a fellow student. Wartime service in the Royal Army Medical Corps took him to Norway, Iceland, and, finally, the Normandy landing as lieutenant colonel in charge of a field ambulance. After the war he entered general practice in Leeds, where Jacqueline had been working; his energy, charm, and compassion were much appreciated by his patients.

In 1966 he left general practice for a post in the student health service at the university; in 1974 he entered the occupational health service at Leeds General Infirmary. He retired in 1978. From 1974 to 1978 he was chairman of convocation at the university. After retirement he held a part time appointment in occupational health in Airedale Hospital, Keighley, until 1985 and then worked there as a locum until his death.



S Behrman

From the time of their marriage Robert and Jacqueline were committed to the Christian way of life. Robert became active in the work of the Crypt, a centre for outcasts of the inner city of Leeds. In 1970 he started a medical service for those attending and provided a rota of doctors and consultants available. He was also a founder member of the local branch of the Christian Medical Fellowship. On retirement he became ordained into the non-stipendiary ministry of the Church of England in 1979, having been licensed as a lay reader in 1977. He served as honorary curate at Kettlewell until his death.

Robert had always had a great love of the countryside. In 1973 he moved to Upper Wharfedale, where, as was his way, he took part in all aspects of local life. Above all he loved to walk on the fells with his dog. He is survived by Jacqueline; two sons, Michael (professor of surgery at Birmingham) and Patrick; and four grandchildren. —GFR.

## S BEHRMAN

FRCP

Dr S Behrman, emeritus consultant in neurology to the Guy's group of hospitals, London, died on 9 December, just a few days before his 86th birthday.

Simon Behrman was born in imperial Russia, and his early education was at the gymnasium in St Petersburg. His family were forced to flee at the time of the revolution and managed to escape only hours before the Bolsheviks seized their home. Simon was a refugee in Europe for over a year, eventually reaching Glasgow in 1919 to stay with relatives. Although unable to speak a word of English, within 18 months he had secured a scholarship to University College London; he did his clinical training at St Bartholomew's Hospital and qualified MRCS, LRCP in 1928. After several appointments he went to the National Hospital, Queen Square, where his enthusiasm for neurology was fired. His special interest in neuro-ophthalmology led to his appointment as consultant physician to the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital in 1939, and he remained on the staff of Moorfields Eye Hospital until his retirement in 1967.

During the war he worked in the Emergency Medical Service based at Guy's Hospital. At the inception of the NHS he was appointed consultant neurologist to Bromley Hospital, and in 1950, with Mr Geoffrey Knight, he established the South East Metropolitan regional neurosurgical unit at the Brook Hospital, which served as a model for similar units being developed elsewhere. His close association with ophthalmologists at Moorfields brought him to realise the differences in approach to medical problems between ophthalmologists and physicians. This prompted him to found the Eye Physic Club in the 1960s to bring together these two disciplines, and he remained active in the club until his death.

A prolific writer, he was the author of over 300 scientific articles on such diverse topics as trauma and orthopaedics, psychiatry, medical history, and medicine in literature. All his writing was characterised by beautiful prose.

Outside medicine he was a keen collector of antique furniture and had a wide knowledge of architecture. He enjoyed Russian literature, which he could read in the original. He is survived by his wife and four children, one of whom is a physician. —ASM.

AGB writes: I knew Simon Behrman for a long time, having worked in his clinic at Moorfields Eye Hospital for 15 years. Over those years I came to appreciate his skills more and more. He was the most patient and

careful history taker I have ever known, never seeming to miss a relevant point and doing the minimum examination for the comfort of his patients. This of course was time consuming, but few if any patients complained about waiting to see him. His medical philosophy seemed to be that the illness of every patient was an experiment of nature.

## T PARTINGTON

MD, FRCP

ML writes: When Tom Partington (obituary, 4 February, p 317) went to Kettering Hospital in 1950 we general practitioners soon came to know him not only as a first class consultant but also as a friend who had general practitioners' welfare very much at heart. Then, domiciliary visits by consultants were a valuable and important feature of the health service. We soon learnt that we could call on Tom for help and advice whatever the day or the hour. His consultations were superb; his was the best postgraduate teaching I have ever experienced. He would arrive at his diagnosis with unerring accuracy, and the few carefully selected investigations would almost always confirm his conclusions.

## L H CAPEL

MD, FRCP

AH writes: Leslie Capel (obituary, 28 January, p 249) and I were the joint editors of the *Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin* for the first few years after it was founded in 1963, and he continued to contribute to it until he died. Leslie was full of ideas, humour, and warmth and had many friends at the Consumers' Association. One of his special achievements was to establish a rhinitis clinic at the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital, thus becoming perhaps the country's first nasal physician.

**Dr Alan Rex Adderley**, MB, BCHIR, who had been a general practitioner in Worthing, has died aged 86. He studied medicine at Cambridge University and St Thomas's Hospital, London, qualifying MRCS, LRCP in 1925. After working for the Church Missionary Society in Egypt and Trans-Jordan and the government medical service in Southern Rhodesia he entered general practice in 1937; he retired in 1964. During the war he served with the Royal Army Medical Corps and the Indian Army Medical Corps. He always had a great love of travel and before finally settling in Lyme Regis lived for three years in Bermuda. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and a son and a daughter. —KA.

**Dr Robert John Harrison**, FRCP, emeritus consultant physician to St James's Hospital, Balham, south London, has died. He studied medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, qualifying MRCS, LRCP in 1937. He was appointed consultant physician at Fulham Hospital, London, in 1948 and to the staff of St James's Hospital in 1951; he retired in 1970. In 1975 he helped establish Worthing Postgraduate Medical Centre, organising meetings and inviting speakers. He was exceptionally active in the Royal Society of Medicine and in 1969 was the first fellow to be elected honorary member of the clinical section. Widely known as "Happy," Dr Harrison was quiet and rather shy. He is survived by his wife. —MD.